

## **In The Claims**

Please amend claims 2-3 and 10. A complete listing of the claims indicating status and text with markings to show current changes follows.

1. (Previously Amended) A method for automating the management of an inventory of consumer items at a consumer location using a programmed device accepting input data and executing instructions for automating inventory management, the method comprising:

receiving a series of shopping lists, each shopping list including at least one item;

establishing a shopping list trend based on the series of shopping lists;

generating an output list in accordance with the shopping list trend such that the output list is predictive of a next shopping list;

receiving a plurality of item price lists from a corresponding plurality of shopping locations; and

recommending a shopping location based on the plurality of item price lists and the output list.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving ~~the at least one~~ a shopping list of the series of shopping lists further comprises:

determining a shopping list of a shopping trip;

storing information indicative of the shopping list on a data storage medium; and

thereafter, retrieving the information from the data storage medium.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving ~~the at least one~~ a shopping list of the series of shopping lists further comprises:

determining a shopping list of a shopping trip;

sending information indicative of the shopping list over a network; and

receiving the information from the network.

4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
receiving at least one consumed item list including at least one item that has  
been consumed, wherein the shopping list trend is further based on the at least one consumed  
item list.

5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein receiving the at least  
one consumed item list further comprises:  
identifying an item upon consumption thereof, the item having a tag and the item  
being identified by recognizing the tag.

6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the tag is a bar code  
and the tag is recognized by scanning the bar code.

7. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein receiving the at least  
one consumed item list further comprises:  
identifying an item upon consumption thereof by recognizing the item with a  
camera.

8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
comparing the output list with the next shopping list; and  
modifying the shopping list trend based on the comparison.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein generating the output  
list further comprises:  
receiving an item list for a recipe; and  
generating the smart output list further based on the item list for the recipe.

11. - 23. (Withdrawn)